DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWELVE PEOPLE ARRESTED FOR USING COUNTERFEIT IDENTIFICATION

The undercover operation took place near the University of California at San Diego campus

San Diego – Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), San Diego Police Department and University of California at San Diego Police Department arrested 12 people Friday night in the City of San Diego for using counterfeit identification while attempting to buy alcohol beverages. The operation was conducted in the general vicinity of University of California at San Diego.

ABC Investigators and local law enforcement conducted a program called "Cops-In-Shops Operation," which targets underage patrons who try to buy alcohol and/or use false identification. During this program, plain-clothes police officers work inside ABC-licensed businesses and observe the patrons. When an underage patron tries to buy an alcoholic beverage and/or uses a false ID, officers step in and make an arrest. Employees of the businesses are briefed before the start of the operation and cooperate with officers.

The operation around UC-San Diego was conducted as part of the \$50,000 grant from ABC to San Diego Police Department to addresses the problem of alcohol abuse and binge drinking by college students on or near the campus. Funding for this grant is derived from the State Office of Traffic Safety and administered by ABC as part of the ABC/UC Partnership Project.

"Reducing access to alcohol in the places where students live, study and socialize is crucial to reducing underage and binge drinking," said ABC Director Jerry R. Jolly. "I commend the San Diego Police Department Vice-Unit and University of California at San Diego Police Department for their commitment to improving public safety."

The ABC/UC Partnership Project involves six UC campuses. Each campus has received grants of up to \$50,000 for on-campus education and prevention programs on the subject of binge drinking and alcohol abuse. In addition, local law enforcement agencies in campus communities are receiving grants to focus on off-campus issues involving alcohol. This includes targeting adults who furnish alcohol to minors, and retail outlets that sell to underage and/or obviously intoxicated students. In addition to the ABC/UC Partnership Project, there is an ABC/CSU Partnership Grant Project that is funded with federal grants totaling \$2.57 million to support prevention, education and enforcement programs on and off selected CSU campuses.

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